

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern Application No  
PCT/GB2004/005409

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G01D9/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 G01D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, COMPENDEX

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages  | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| Y          | US 6 205 362 B1 (EIDSON JOHN C)<br>20 March 2001 (2001-03-20)<br>column 3, line 43 - column 4, line 12<br>column 5, line 47 - line 58<br>column 9, line 62 - column 11, line 12,<br>paragraph 1<br>figures 1-3          | 1,2                   |
| X          | FR 2 792 402 A (L'AIR LIQUIDE SOCIETE<br>ANONYME POUR L'ETUDE ET L'EXPLOITATION DES<br>PROCE) 20 October 2000 (2000-10-20)<br>abstract; claim 1<br>page 1, line 28 - line 31<br>page 5, line 8 - line 12<br>figures 1-3 | 10,11                 |
| Y          |   | 1,2                   |

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents:

- 'A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- 'E' earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- 'O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- 'P' document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- 'T' later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- 'X' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- 'Y' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
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Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 April 2005

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29/04/2005

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| Patent document<br>cited in search report |    | Publication<br>date | Patent family<br>member(s) |            | Publication<br>date |
|---|----|---------------------|----------------------------|------------|---------------------|
| US 6205362                                | B1 | 20-03-2001          | JP                         | 11265206 A | 28-09-1999          |
| FR 2792402                                | A  | 20-10-2000          | FR                         | 2792402 A1 | 20-10-2000          |